

Sudan desert locust update 1-3 August, 2005

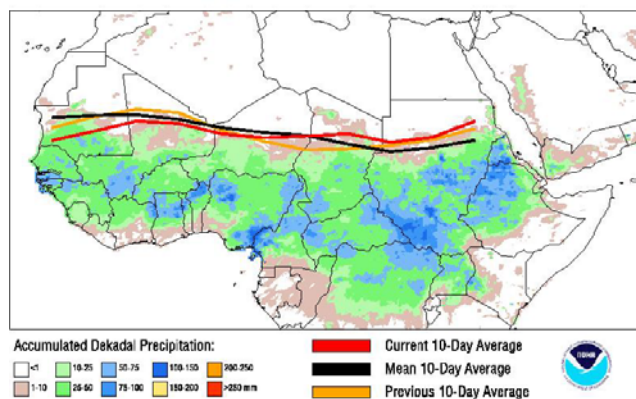
Summary:

Immature adults and/or hopper bands were detected on a total of 2,155 ha in the Darfur states during ground surveys carried out here and in North Kordofan. Control operations treated 1,140 ha in Western and Northern Darfur and similar operations will soon commence in accessible areas in South Darfur.

Meteorological and ecological conditions

The Sahel section of the ITCZ over Sudan and the Horn remained north of the median position in the third dekad of July causing moderate to heavy rains between 26th July and 3rd August in a few places in Northern, Southern and Western Darfur and Northern Kordofan. As a result, ecological conditions continued to improve in these areas.

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ
As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center
July 2005 Dekad 3



Locust situation

High density 4th instar hopper bands and gregarious groups of immature adults were detected in a few places in Western Darfur and spray operations were carried out on 105 ha. 1st to 3rd instar hoppers were seen on 1,650 ha and ground control operations were carried out on 1,035 ha. 1st instar hopper groups with medium to high densities were detected on some 400 ha during the surveys

carried out around Nyala, southern Darfur where control operations were being planned. All 1,200 ha surveyed in several locations in Northern Kordofan were found free of DL.

Forecast

Due to the rains that continued to fall in the western part of the country and a few places in the Red Sea coast and the interior of the country, it is likely that favorable conditions will persist over the coming weeks. As a result more locusts may appear and breed in the coming weeks.

Proactive interventions and vigilant survey and monitoring are essential to avert any major outbreak in/from the western region.

Resources

PPD/Sudan has inventoried resources to respond to the current locust situation to the extent possible. It has also been exploring possibilities to use the UN or other facilities to conduct survey operations in inaccessible but critical areas.

Note on neighboring countries

Active survey operations and control operations were carried out in Chad.

No report was received from Ethiopia or Eritrea during 1-3 August.

AELGA will continue monitoring the situation and issue updates and recommendations as necessary.

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